

The Travel Town TENDER

A Publication of the Travel Town Museum Foundation

Volume 8, Issue 3
November 2010



Greetings from Travel Town!



Guests from the Art Deco Society Dress up our Dining Car and Sleeping Car Hunter's Point with our own "Conductor" Craig Smith. These artists really brought our historic cars "to life" in their period costumes and props.



I hope you were among those who braved the damp weather on October 17th to join us for our Fifth Annual DEPOT DAY celebration. We had a great day, despite the persistent precipitation that pervaded throughout the day. It was wonderful to see so many of our TTMF Members, volunteers, families and friends! We were joined this year by over 50 guest exhibitors, musicians, performers, docents and other supporters. This year's theme, Railroads in the 1940s, was especially augmented by a group of costumed members of the local Art Deco Society – who positioned themselves in and around the vintage railroad cars and locomotives to create a realistic "period" atmosphere throughout the event.

I want to thank our great group of entertainers – *Dr. Noize, The Conductors, David Liebe Hart and Adam Papagon, The Hollow Trees*, and storyteller *John McGee* - who all generously shared their talents with us. We were so glad to welcome many old and new friends from the community – Councilman Tom LaBonge and Isaac Burks from *Council District Four*; woodcarver *Jackie Hadenot*, model builder *David Holt* and his son *Vanya*, blacksmiths from *Adam's Forge, Operation Life Saver, the Carolwood Historical Society* from the *Walt Disney Barn, Los Angeles Live Steamers, the Fairplex Garden Railway*, firefighters from *Engine Co. 76, the California High Speed Rail Authority, Griffith Park Rangers, L.A. General Services Police, Burbank Boy Scout and Venture Crew from Troop 210, and L.A. METRO*, and *Bryan Reese* with his vintage Cadillac display. And of course, we could never have pulled this event off at all without the tireless work of our Foundation Staff and Travel Town Volunteers.

In addition to our many volunteers, performers and exhibitors, I want to give a very special note of thanks to our good friends at the *Travel Town Railroad* and to *Brian Higgins* and his family for their generous help in sponsoring this year's Depot Day event. Last but not least, I applaud and extend my deepest thanks to our Depot Day Planning Committee who really made the whole thing happen – literally: *Donna Choi, Julie Foster, Craig Smith and Nancy Gneier*. THANKS ALL!

Greg Gneier, President
November 2010

On the Platform . . . Donna Choi

This issue's "On The Platform" features Donna Choi, who is currently working as Manager at the Museum, although her job title barely covers the many areas this native Californian has improved with her unique energy, ideas and positive leadership - from day-to-day responsibilities to annual events like Depot Day and the Polar Express Pajama Party.

An award-winning jewelry designer - including winning three ribbons at this year's LA County Fair! - Donna recently celebrated the 9th anniversary of her popular gift boutique, Serifos, in Silver Lake's hip Sunset Junction neighborhood. Drop by this holiday season for a unique shopping experience at the store voted "Best in LA" where the motto is "Gifts for everyone, including yourself!" Indeed, Donna has brought her eye for design to the gift shop and her marketing experience to growing membership and working on donations, including her current focus on getting a grant to fund a bigger and better gift shop in the park.



Besides cooking and gardening, Donna enjoys travel - whether abroad or just a weekend So Cal getaway - for both the sense of adventure and the way new places, sights and sounds inspire her work as a designer. Without a doubt, it is this love of travel that makes her feel so connected to the work and purpose of Travel Town, which she loves as an escape and respite from the urban jungle of Los Angeles. "It's great to be a part of this special corner of the city that preserves the past even as it shapes the future through the many creative ways we help children grow and develop."

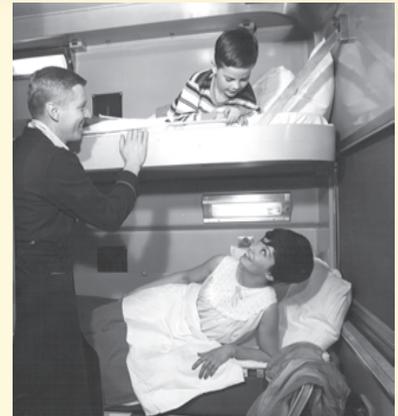
At the end of the day, however, Donna appreciates the positive energy that comes from a place where diverse people from across the city come together in the spirit of volunteerism and common purpose to create the special sense of community that makes Travel Town the wonderful experience it is every day of the year.

Traveling Etiquette - Part 2

By Emily Post (1945 Edition)

GOING TO BED IN A PULLMAN

Whether you have a drawing room, compartment, or "bedroom," a section or a berth, you ring for the porter to make up your berth when you are ready to go to bed. If you have a drawing room, compartment, or bedroom, you shut your door and go to bed. In every variety of room, all dressing facilities are included so that you do not go to the public dressing room at all. If, however, your berth is in an open car, you finish for the night in the dressing room while the porter makes up your bed. This is especially necessary if you have an upper berth, so that when you have gone up the stepladder the porter brings for you, you will not have to come down again. In the morning when you want to get down, you ring the bell inside your berth and ask for the stepladder. You dress as much as you can in your berth, because there is no privacy - and less space- in the dressing room.



Santa Fe Railway Photo, ASRA collection.

A typical American family, traveling in a Pullman "Double Bedroom" circa 1960.

CHILDREN ON TRAINS

Any number of people not only let small children eat continuously so that the car is filled with food odors, but some mothers have been known to let a child with smeary fingers clutch a near-by passenger by the dress or coat and seemingly think it cunning! Those who are sufficiently well-to-do usually take a compartment and keep the children in it. Those who are to travel in seats should plan diversions for the children ahead of time; it is unreasonable to expect little children to sit quietly for hours on end and just "be good."

Two little girls on the train to Washington the other day were crocheting doll's sweaters with balls of worsted in which "prizes" were wound. The amount of wool covering each might take perhaps half an hour to use up. They were allowed the prize only when occupied for a while with whatever it was - a little book, or a puzzle, or a game. When they grew tired of its novelty, they crocheted again until they came to the next prize. In the end they had also new garments for their dolls.



Don't miss the
members-only
Polar Express
Pajama Party on
December 3!

Hear the story,
watch the movie!
Games & crafts!
Hot cocoa
& cookies!

Reservations required - R.S.V.P. early!

Reserve your space online at www.traveltown.org,
via e-mail to volunteers.PE9@traveltown.org,
or by phone to 323-668-0104, ext. 12

Help restore trains while shopping for the holidays!

The Gift Shop will be open late on December 3 - movies, music,
books, apparel, toys and more available for purchase.
10% discount for members!

Depot Day 2010



October 17, 2010



Thank you to the following people for making Depot Day 2010 such a success!

Caltrans 🚂 Adam's Forge Blacksmith
Art Deco Society of Los Angeles 🚂 Costco
Charles Products 🚂 Boy Scout Troop 210
John Evans 🚂 Disney Barn
CA High Speed Rail Authority
Councilmember Tom LaBonge
Fairplex Garden Railway 🚂 Fillmore & Western Railway
Griffith Park Rangers 🚂 Jackie Hadnot
Mr. David Holt 🚂 John McGee
L.A. Live Steamers 🚂 Lisa Thorne 🚂 The Higgins Family
Los Angeles Fire Department Engine Co. 76
Los Angeles Police Department
Metrolink/Operation Lifesaver
Raymond C. Geyer 🚂 Bryan Reese
Trader Joe's 🚂 Venture Crew Troop 210
Women in Railroading



Los Angeles, Fifty Years Ago . . .

Travel Town's own Pacific Electric "Big Red Car" no. 1543, pictured at Slauson Jct. in October 1960. The 1543 was the only Red Car to be repainted in "MTA green" after the Metropolitan Transit Authority took over the last few remaining Los Angeles street car operations. Passenger service on the Long Beach Line was discontinued a few months later in 1961.

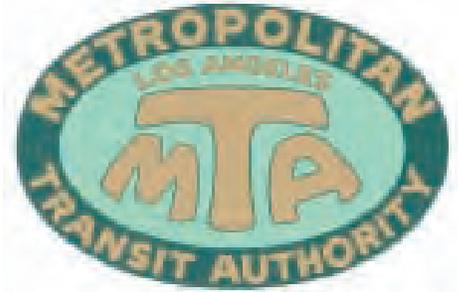


Photo by Alan Weeks

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Keep up with the latest goings-on at TravelTown by finding us on Facebook!

Search for "Travel Town Museum Foundation," or link to the page directly at <http://www.facebook.com/traveltown>. Be sure to hit the "like" button to get current updates!



Travel Town Railroad

In cooperation with the Travel Town Museum and the
City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks

Presents the 2010

Train Ride to Santa!

Join us at the Travel Town Museum for a magical evening riding the miniature train to visit Santa Claus at his house at the North Pole! After a short ride from the station, you will arrive at Santa's house, where you can get off the train and visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus and take pictures. When you are ready to leave, the train will take you back to the station through a wonderland of holiday lights and decorations.

Opening night is Saturday November 27 from 5:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.*

November 27, 28 • December 3, 4, 5 • December 10, 11, 12 • December 15 through 23
Train operates from 5:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. each evening. Train cannot operate in the rain.

**Tickets are limited each evening. The ride will be closed once tickets are sold out,
so pick your evening and buy your tickets early.*

Tickets \$7 per person - Includes one round trip (18 months and under free)

Photos with Santa \$5.00 each (each family may take a limit of 2 of their own photographs)

To buy tickets, visit the ticket booth at Travel Town Railroad or you may purchase tickets online at www.GriffithParkTrainRides.com after November 1, 2010, for a small fee.

For information and directions please visit our website or call 818-881-2586.

All Aboard!

Travel Town Museum Foundation memberships are available in a range of levels, all of which include special benefits including gift shop discounts and invitations to members-only events! In addition, each issue of the *Travel Town Tender* lists new and returning Foundation members. A warm welcome to the newest members and renewing supporters of the Travel Town Museum Foundation!

RESTORATION PARTNERS

Noemi Adalin

LITTLE NUGGET CLUB

Robin Foster

STREAMLINERS

William Meurer
Jonathan Norman

TRACK GANG

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Tristan Anderson
Armen Andranigian
Belinda Bickley
Gina Binda
Hayden Cass
Angela Davies
Mike Elessier
Sharon Evans
Steffie Hands
Mia Marano
Brandi McClain
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Mo Rolfe
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Robert Slechter
Sarah Spiegel
Michael Stevens
Theresa & Robert
Villegas-Brown
The Rader Family
Nash Marquez
Sylvia Masushig
Pam Moeck
Ara Anoshi Ravani

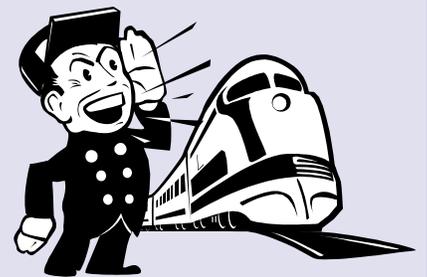
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Want to become a member?

Call us at

323-668-0104

or visit the Gift Shop

for more information!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!



AMERICAN SOUTHWESTERN RAILWAY ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 39846 - GRIFFITH STATION

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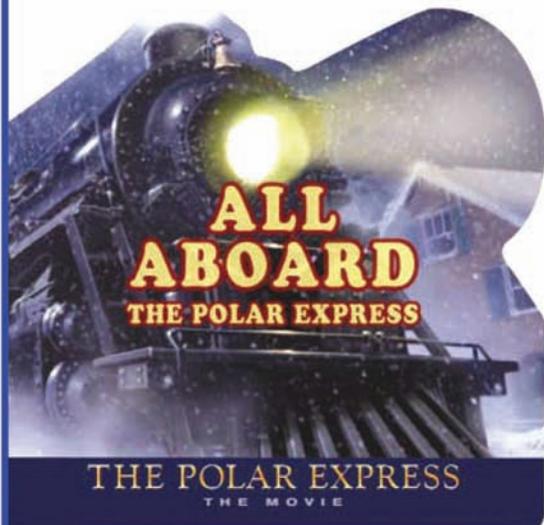
Permit No. 6

Polar Express Pajama Party!

for our Travel Town Museum Foundation Members

FRIDAY • DECEMBER 3 • at TRAVEL TOWN

Come in your pajamas and join us for a cup of cocoa and a special screening of THE POLAR EXPRESS movie! There'll be games and fun activities for the kids. Plus, the Museum Gift Shop will be open late with a selection of railroad-related books, music, t-shirts and toys.



SCHEDULE FOR THE EVENING

5:30 - Exhibit Hall open for arts & crafts,
Thomas & Friends playtime.

6:00 - Reading of *The Polar Express*.

6:30 - The Movie begins!

Hot Chocolate and cookies served throughout!

Space is Limited - Reservations are Required

Please R.S.V.P. before November 28

323-668-0104, ext. 13

or by e-mail at giftshop.pe10@traveltown.org

The Santa Train Ride will also be running!

Tickets for the Santa Train are \$7 each.